

Application No.: 10/074,022
Old Attorney's Docket No. 032658-025
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REMARKS

Claims 1-13, 15-25 and 37 are now pending in the application. Claims 26-36 are now canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. (Claim 14 was previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.) Claims 1 and 21-23 have been amended, and new claim 37 added, without introduction of new matter. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

New claim 37 has been added to the application. This claim re-introduces the subject matter that had originally been defined by original claim 14 (now canceled). Thus, no new matter has been added to the application.

Claims 1 and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In particular, the Office objects that the recitation of "the skipped bits" in each of claims 1 and 21-23 is not clear, and furthermore lacks antecedent basis.

In response, each of independent claims 1 and 21-23 has been amended to address the concerns expressed in the Action. No new matter has been introduced. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1 and 21-23 as well as their related dependent claims 2-20 [sic: 2-13, 15-20], 24 and 25 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 be withdrawn.

Claims 1-13 and 15-25 again stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Greene (U.S. Patent No. 6,631,419) in view of Wilkinson III et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,014,659). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant maintains that various aspects of the invention are patentably distinguishable over the prior art of record for the reasons set forth in the Amendment filed on July 7, 2005, which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

In the above-referenced Amendment, Applicant argued, *inter alia*, that, in the present invention, multiple look-ups in respect of different data can be carried out at the same time within the same table. All of the finite state machines reference the same lookup table data. The prior art systems may perform multiple lookups but they do so in different lookup tables.

In response to this argument, the Office stated that "the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., same lookup table) are not recited in the rejected claim(s)", and accordingly gave the argument no weight.

Each of independent claims 1, 21, 22, and 23 has now been amended to define "to enable multiple look ups of the same look up table to be carried out concurrently."

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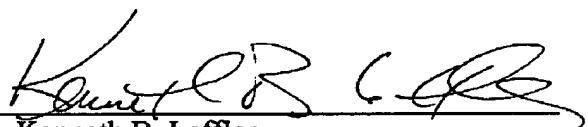
It is clear that the organization of the component parts of Applicant's claimed subject matter permits a plurality of *different* requests for *different* items of information/data to be serviced concurrently by the plurality of parallel paths and state machines, and that multiple look-ups in respect of different data can be carried out at the same time within the same table. All of the finite state machines reference the same lookup table data. The prior art systems disclosed in Greene and Wilkinson III may perform multiple lookups but they do so in different lookup tables. Consequently, any combination of these references would still fail to include all of the features defined by Applicant's claims.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully asserted that the independent claims 1, 21, 22, and 23 are patentably distinguishable over the Greene and Wilkinson documents, regardless of whether these documents are considered individually or in combination. The remaining dependent claims 2-13, 15-20, and 24-25 (and new dependent claim 37) inherit the features of their respective base claims, and are therefore patentable for at least the same reasons as those set forth above. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-13 and 15-25 under Section 103(a) be withdrawn.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Prompt notice of same is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
Potomac Patent Group PLLC

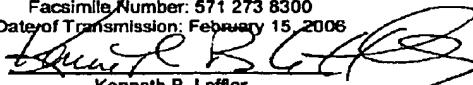
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